



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

(MODIFIED) PTO/SB/30 (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0654-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

~~RC~~
1771
+ IFW

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/025,214
Filing Date	18 December 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael John NIEMEYER
Group Art Unit	1771
Examiner Name	Elizabeth M. Cole
Attorney Docket Number	KCC-15,750

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a. ☒ Previously submitted

i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on 25 March 2004
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☐ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declarations

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-3550

i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e)

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☒ Other any deficiency in the enclosed fee

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Melanie I. Rauch	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	40,924
Signature		Date	April 27, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Mail Stop RCE, Comm. for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: 04/27/04

Name (Print/Type)	Melanie I. Rauch	Date	April 27, 2004
Signature		Date	April 27, 2004

SEND FEES and completed forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450

06/24/2004 CNGUYEN 00000131 10025214

01 FC:1801

770.00 OP

KCC-2152